

Market News

Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission, Recycling Market Development Program

Texas Recycling Groups Announce Joint Conference

The Texas Recycling Summit, the largest recycling and waste reduction conference and trade show in the state's history, will be held in Austin October 6, 7, and 8.

The conference is sponsored by the Recycling Coalition of Texas (RCT), the Texas Corporate Recycling Council (TCRC), the Texas General Land Office, and the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission. The event will feature nationally recognized experts on recycling, waste prevention, composting, recycled-content products, and sustainable design. Among the estimated 700 guests will be this year's recipients of the RCT and TCRC's state recycling awards.

"This conference will provide wonderful opportunities for cities, businesses, state agencies, and other organizations to learn about the latest developments in innovative waste management," said Estela Garcia, president of the TCRC. "If you are responsible for waste management at your organization, you don't want to miss this conference," said Garcia. For additional information on the conference call 800/367-8272.

Poly Resource Recycling Expands

Poly Resource Recycling Inc., is expanding its plastics recycling facility with the installation of two additional processing lines for film and styrofoam. The new state of the art facility will double the company's floor space from 24,000 sq./ft to 40,000 sq./ft. The new facility is located at 6406 Burleson, Suite 160, Austin, Texas 78744. For more information, contact Adam Mosier, President, at 512/385-0030, or by fax at 512/385-0031, or on the Internet at recycler@ix.netcom.com.

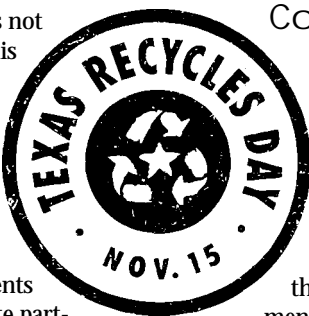
3M Initiates Innovative Recycling Program

According to 3M, each year 15 million pounds of used transparency film are disposed of in landfills. In response to this fact, 3M has launched the first national program for overhead transparency recycling. The program is managed by 3M's Visual Systems Division in Austin. Since the program's inception 3M has already received more than 57,000 pounds of recyclable film from more than 90 corporations. The recycled film is used as fiber fill for chairs and carpet, automotive products, more transparency film, insulation, and other products made from polyester. For more information, call 800/328-1371.

Texas Recycles Day

Texas Recycles Day is November 15, but it's not too early to start planning recycling events. This year's event will focus on the benefits of buying recycled products. Teaching consumers to identify and request recycled products helps increase markets for recycled commodities and helps close the recycling loop. Event co-chairs are Don Riecss of The Home Depot in Austin and Nancy Crowson of Keep Texas Beautiful in El Paso.

In a new development, groups and governments around the country are developing public-private partnerships to create the first America Recycles Day on November 15. For help planning a Texas Recycles Day event, call TNRCC's CLEAN TEXAS 2000 staff at 512/239-3150.



Habitat for Humanity Joins Texas Recycles Day

A key recycling market development project for Texas Recycles Day 1997 is off and running in Austin: a Habitat for Humanity home using recycled-content building materials. The TNRCC is partnering with the Austin Habitat for Humanity RE-Store, The Home Depot, and Texas manufacturers of recycled content materials. Manufacturers interested in participating in this project should contact Ted Hazen of TNRCC at 512/239-3161.

Cooperative Marketing on the Rise

According to the National Cooperative Marketing Network, cooperative marketing for recyclable materials is on the rise. The group claims cooperative marketing increases the value of marketed recyclables through the benefits gained from large volume sales.

The Central Texas Recycling Association (CTRA), a recycling market cooperative serving 58 Central Texas counties, has recently gained new members. The city of Uvalde recently joined the cooperative to take advantage of CTRA's established buyer agreements. According to Patrick Basinski of CTRA, "A major factor contributing to the increased interest in cooperative marketing (and in CTRA membership) is the difficulty for some cities in rural or remote areas to secure reliable markets." In addition to providing markets for recyclables, marketing cooperatives such as CTRA provide technical assistance, coordination of hauling, and educational outreach that would otherwise be a financial burden to small communities. According to John Folz, Vista Fibers Vice President, cooperative marketing can be most useful to communities of 4,000 to 5,000 people that are located in remote areas of Texas. Centrally located processing facilities, where transportation and processing costs are shared, could provide some of the greatest benefits for cooperatives. For more information on the Central Texas Recycling Association call 800/845-0071.



Spotlight on: Garden-Ville Inc.

Malcolm Beck established Garden-Ville in San Antonio in 1957 as a family farm. He began producing compost to use on his farm, but soon discovered that he could make more money by selling his compost than by using it to grow vegetables. Garden-Ville has since grown into a multimillion dollar business with a large compost production facility and five garden-center outlets in the Austin-San Antonio corridor. These outlets sell the city of Austin's composted biosolids (sewage sludge) along with its own compost and a full range of organic gardening products and supplies. Garden-Ville's composting operation incorporates manure, slaughter-house wastes, sawdust, rice and peanut hulls, pecan shells, wood shavings, ground tree trimmings, vegetable byproducts from picante sauce production, and even waste brewery and soft drink liquids, which have been banned from landfills. Mr. Beck has introduced a variety of innovative horticultural products, including decorative mulches produced by crushing salvaged toilets and other ceramic materials. He has also promoted the production and use of compost all across the United States. His message focuses not on the diversion of materials from disposal, but on the critical need to restore our farms and our urban landscapes by returning organic matter to the soil, increasing its ability to support beneficial soil life, to absorb and retain moisture, and to resist erosion. For more information, contact Malcolm Beck at 210/650-6115.

ETC.

The following list of Web sites may be useful to our readers. **Aluminum Association:** <http://www.aluminum.org> ... **American Metal Markets:** <http://www.amm.com> ... **American Forest and Paper Association:** <http://www.afandpa.org> ... **American Plastics Council:** <http://www.plasticsresource.com> ... **Glass Packaging Institute:** <http://www.gpi.org> ... **National Association of Plastic Container Recovery:** <http://www.napcor.com> ... **Pulp and Paper Magazine:** <http://www.pulp-paper.com> ... **Solid Waste Association of North America:** <http://www.swana.org> ... **Steel Recycling Institute:** <http://www.recycle-steel.org> ... **U.S. EPA Eco-Purchasing:** <http://www.recyclingdata.com> ...

Texas Market Prices

(for the week of June 15, 1997)

Material		Processor Price	End-User Price
Aluminum	UBC (cans)	\$0.25 - 0.48/lb —	\$0.61/lb —
Glass	Flint	0 - 25/ton —	50 - 57/ton —
	Amber	0 - 25/ton —	40 - 59/ton —
	Green	0 - 5/ton —	15/ton —
Paper	OCC	25 - 45/ton —	60 - 75/ton —
	ONP #8	0 - 10/ton —	10 - 30/ton —
	White Ledger	20 - 80/ton —	100 - 140/ton —
	Mixed Paper	0 - 10/ton —	0 - 15/ton —
	Mixed Office Ledger	10 - 30/ton ↑	40 - 70/ton —
	Computer Print-out	60 - 130/ton —	200 - 220/ton —
Plastic	PET (mixed colors)	0 —	0.04 - 0.07/lb ↑
	HDPE (natural)	0 —	0.20 - 0.21/lb —
	HDPE (mixed colors)	0 —	0.06 - 0.13/lb —
Steel	Steel Cans	50/ton ↑	75/ton —

The prices listed above are compiled by the TNRCC Recycling Market Development Program and are for reference only. These prices are not firm quotes. TNRCC obtained pricing information from buyers within each category and developed a pricing range. "Processors" include dealers, brokers, scrap yards and collection centers; whereas, "end-users" include mills and plants. Processor prices are for delivered material in metropolitan areas of the state and do not reflect the value of any collection services. End-user prices, except for glass, are for baled material in truckload quantity, f.o.b. seller's dock. The difference between processor and end-user prices is indicative of the value added by separating, baling or otherwise preparing materials to meet end-market specifications. Actual prices paid by end-users will depend on quality, quantity and transportation requirements. Arrows indicate direction of change from previous month.

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Market News is produced by the TNRCC Recycling Market Development Program. For more information about items in this newsletter, contact the Market Development Team at 512/239-6750, Fax 512/239-6763, or email ocarrill@tnrcc.state.tx.us.

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